

The Desert SUSTAINER

December 8, 2003

Serving the soldiers of LSA Anaconda and Sustainer Army Airfield

COSCOM begins packing bags



Sgt. Brian Talarico washes a vehicle before it's loaded on a ship to Germany.

**Story by Sgt. 1st Class Carolanne Diggs
3d COSCOM PAO**

Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Corps Support Command are nearing 12 months in theater, and they're now preparing the force for redeployment early next year.

Several pieces of excess equipment are now staged in Kuwait and ready for shipment back to Germany.

In November, plans were put into place to ease the pain of redeployment. Soldiers convoyed from Logistical Support Area Anaconda to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait with vehicles, generators and trailers in tow. The mission called for the nearly 40 containers, convoyed separately, to be emptied and cleaned to include all contents.

The mission, expected to last about three weeks, wrapped up in about two weeks.

"It was a success because the soldiers were committed to their mission. A thorough, detailed plan made for a great impact on the overall mission," said Lt. Col. Fredrick Brown, 3rd COSCOM's Special Troops Battalion commander.

Thousands of soldiers are expected to move through Arifjan for simultaneous deployment and redeployment early next year as new units take over the mission here.

"Doing this eliminated having a large volume of equipment at the port at the same time," said Brown. "We have about 30 percent of the equipment there waiting for shipment."



photos by Maj. Ed Bryja, 3d COSCOM PAO
Cpl. David Lindley and Staff Sgt. Ben Muehr load tent frames into a vehicle so they can be packed for shipment to Germany



Left, Master Sgt. Lloyd Stephens drags ratchets used to tie down equipment to be shipped. Bottom, 3d COSCOM soldiers pack storage units for transport.





Blizzard hits Northeast

(CNN) — The season's first major snowstorm walloped the Northeast on Saturday, closing Boston's Logan International Airport and dumping at least 23 inches in parts of New York.

The storm hit much of New England late Saturday with heavy snow, coastal winds and blizzard conditions. It was expected to move northward Monday into Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, said Bob Oravec, a meteorologist with the Weather Service in Camp Springs, Maryland.

"Anytime you get a storm that produces 1 or 2 feet, it's definitely a big event," he said. "Being the first of the year is always problematic — getting people used to winter again."

"The effects of the storm will be fairly long-lasting across much of New England," Oravec said.

Eight traffic deaths have been blamed on the storm, The Associated Press reported. One death was reported in Pennsylvania, one in Connecticut, and two each in New Jersey, Vermont and Virginia.

AFN now available on LSA Anaconda

Story by Sgt. Grant Calease
3d COSCOM PAO

Soldiers stationed at Logistical Support Area Anaconda now have the ability to watch the American Forces Network.

AFN, previously only viewable with a satellite dish and a decoder, is now being broadcast through the airwaves of LSA Anaconda.

"They just need a TV and some sort of antenna, such as bunny ears or even a piece of wire," said Spc. Keith Gatlin, a broadcast technician with the 222nd Broadcast Operations Detachment.

The decision to broadcast AFN to the masses is an attempt to boost soldier's morale.



"Not everyone has a decoder so AFN wanted to make sure everyone could

get it, for morale reasons," said Gatlin, whose job it is to set up the transmitter and ensure it keeps working.

Currently only one channel is being broadcast. AFN Sports is being shown on channel 27, but soldiers are working to make more channels available for the base's viewing.

Within two weeks AFN News should be running on channel 54 and the technicians of the 222nd would like to see more viewing options in the near future.

"The more channels we can get the better it is for the soldiers," said Gatlin.

TMC CLOSURE

The troop medical clinic will be closed on the following days except for emergency - life, limb or eyesight - situations:

Christmas - Thursday, Dec. 25, and New Year's - Thursday, Jan. 1. For more information contact Maj. Douglas Olney at 318-528-1413.

VEHICLE POLICY

No soldier or Department of the Army civilian is permitted to possess, operate or obtain a privately owned vehicle to include a motorcycle or other motorized vehicle. Any POVs in the possession of soldiers and DA civilians will be confiscated by the military police or base operations personnel.

Mailing Home

With redeployment around the corner the time has come for soldiers to start mailing home personal items. A few things for the soldiers to remember are, one; with the surge of outgoing mail your items will take longer to get home and two; OCIE and TA-50 items can not be sent in the mail.

CONTACT US

The Desert Sustainer is a newsletter compiled printed and published by the 3rd Corps Support Command Public Affairs Office. Please send any comments, suggestions, submissions or story ideas to us by email at grant.calease@us.army.mil, or call 558-2053, or stop by Bldg. 4137.

Wildcats stun Sooners, Claim Big 12 Title

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Oh no, Oklahoma!

The top-ranked Sooners got a taste of the misery they've handed out all season when they were stunned 35-7 by No. 13 Kansas State on Saturday night, throwing the whole national championship picture into chaos.

The loss in the Big 12 title game is certain to drop the Sooners in the polls. However, the big question is can they still

hang on to finish in the top two of the BCS rankings to make the Sugar Bowl — or whether they even deserve to go.

"I'm not going to sit here and lobby for any bowl," Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops said. "We just got whipped. They outplayed us in every part of the game."

Ell Roberson threw four touchdown passes, Darren Sproles ran for 235 yards and the Wildcats shredded Oklahoma's vaunted defense, winning

their first conference title since taking the Big Six in 1934.

Despite the overwhelming defeat, experts still believe the Sooners (12-1) will wind up in New Orleans on Jan. 4 once the BCS standings are released Sunday.

Their opponent would be either Southern California or LSU, and whichever one-loss team is kept out of the title game will surely feel slighted.

"It hurts to lose," Oklahoma linebacker Teddy Lehman said. "We played well all year and when it really mattered we didn't. All we can do is regroup and try to come out and get one more win."

Kansas State will go to the Fiesta Bowl, its first BCS game ever. If not for a three-game losing streak early in the season, the Wildcats could have been playing for the national title.

"I feel like we should probably be the No. 1 team in the nation right now," Kansas State linebacker Ted Sims said.

The Sooners came in hearing talk about where they rank in history. Roberson and the Wildcats (11-3) delivered an emphatic answer — second best in the Big 12.

BCS Standings

1. Oklahoma
2. USC
3. LSU
4. Michigan
5. Ohio State
6. Texas
7. Georgia
8. Florida St.
9. Tennessee
10. Miami (FL)
11. Miami (OH)
12. Iowa
13. Purdue
14. Florida
15. Kansas St.



Kansas State's Brian Casey celebrates after catching a short touchdown pass from Ell Roberson. AP

National Hockey League

EASTERN		WESTERN	
ATLANTIC		CENTRAL	
Flyers	36	Red Wings	32
Devils	34	Blues	30
Rangers	25	Predators	27
Islanders	20	Blue Jackets	20
Penguins	17	Black Hawks	19
NORTHEAST		NORTHWEST	
Maple Leafs	33	Canucks	33
Bruins	32	Avalanche	31
Sabres	27	Flames	24
Senators	27	Oilers	23
Canadiens	25	Wild	22
SOUTHEAST		PACIFIC	
Thrashers	28	Sharks	26
Lightning	27	Kings	26
Panthers	22	Mighty Ducks	25
Hurricanes	22	Stars	25
Capitals	18	Coyotes	23

NCAA Men's Basketball Top 20

1. Kansas
2. Florida
3. UCONN
4. Missouri
5. Michigan St.
6. Duke
7. Arizona
8. Texas
9. Kentucky
10. North Carolina
11. Illinois
12. St. Joseph's
13. Georgia Tech
14. Oklahoma
15. Wisconsin
16. Syracuse
17. Gonzaga
18. Wake Forest
19. Cincinnati
20. Purdue

NFL Scores

Bengals (7-6)	13	Chargers (3-10)	14
Ravens (8-5)	31	Lions (4-9)	7
Buccaners (6-7)	14	Bears (5-8)	21
Saints (6-7)	7	Packers (7-6)	34
Seahawks (8-5)	7	Raiders (3-10)	7
Vikings (8-5)	34	Steelers (5-8)	27
Redskins (5-8)	20	Texans (5-8)	0
Giants (4-9)	7	Jaguars (4-9)	27
Cowboys (8-5)	10	Colts (10-3)	29
Eagles (10-3)	36	Titans (9-4)	27
Cardinals (3-10)	14	Jets (5-8)	6
49ers (6-7)	50	Bills (6-7)	17
Chiefs (11-2)	27	Dolphins (8-5)	0
Broncos (8-5)	45	Patriots (11-2)	12
Panthers (9-4)	14	Rams (9-3)	MNF
Falcons (2-11)	7	Browns (4-8)	